

The Southeast News

VOLUME XII, NUMBER 1

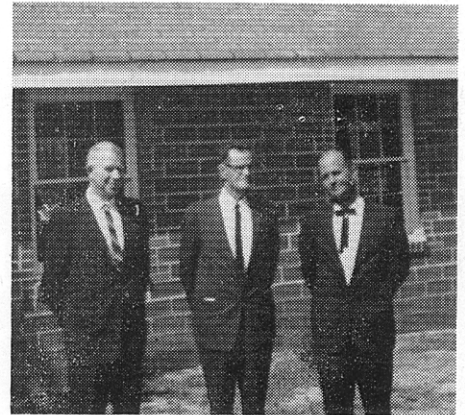
NOVEMBER 1963

EAST ALABAMA



Part of the large crowd in attendance at Noon Day Church.

S. ALABAMA - N. W. FLORIDA



L to R: Rev. Karlton C. Johnson, Rev. E. H. Henby, Rev. Joseph Brown.

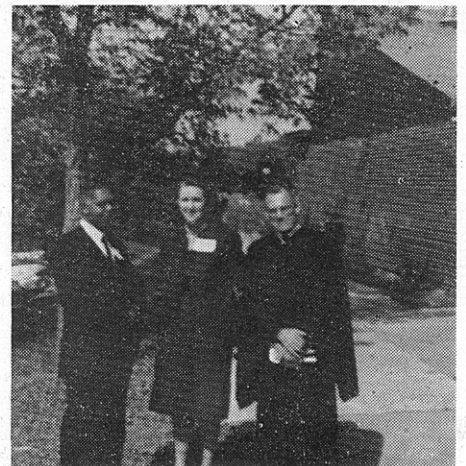
PICTURES FROM THE FALL MEETINGS

CENTRAL ALABAMA



L to R: Rev. Andrew Nelson, Rev. William Fulmer, Mr. Fred Powell, Mrs. Jettie Logan, and Rev. John Wilder.

KENTUCKY - TENNESSEE



L to R: Rev. John C. Mickle, Mrs. F. C. Lester, Rev. Clyde C. Flannery.

A Resolution Adopted By The General Council, July 4, 1963, Denver, Colorado

WHEREAS, after almost twenty years of negotiations between representatives of the Evangelical and Reformed Church and the Congregational Christian Churches, a Basis of Union with interpretations and a constitution have been formulated by which a union of the two communions has been achieved without a break in their historic continuities, and without involving any invasion of the rights previously enjoyed by local churches or congregations, while being joined in fellowship and cooperation, and

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ in the two years since the Philadelphia General Synod has made progress at every level — local church, association, conference, board, instrumentality, General Synod in implementing the Constitution, and

WHEREAS, the decision by a large majority of the churches to unite has had a seal of approval placed upon it by the courts, thereby giving legal status to the Constitution with its affirmation of the autonomy of the local church and to the Basis of Union with its assertion that Congregational Churches do not go out of existence at the time of the Union of the two communions but rather unite without break in their historic continuities, and

WHEREAS, once again the Congregational Christian Churches have entered upon a new and deeply significant adventure in liberty in company with the Evangelical and Reformed Church, an adventure filled with promise for Protestantism and Christianity at a time of ominous world crisis, and

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ was formed to express more fully the oneness in Christ of the churches composing it, to make more effective their common witness in Him, and to serve His Kingdom in the world, and

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ acknowledges as its sole head, Jesus Christ, the Son of God and the Saviour of men; acknowledges as brethren in Christ all who share in this confession; looks to the World of God in the Scriptures, and to the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, to prosper its creative and redemptive work

in the world; claims as its own the faith of the historic Church expressed in the ancient creeds and reclaimed in the basic insights of the Protestant Reformers; affirms the responsibility of the Church in each generation to make this faith its own in reality of worship, in honesty of thought and expression, and in purity of heart before God, and

WHEREAS, the Constitution defines and regulates the General Synod and those instrumentalities of the United Church which are recognized, established by or responsible to the General Synod, and describes the free and voluntary relationships which the local churches, associations, conferences, and ministers sustain with the General Synod and with each other, the pattern of relationships and procedures so described being recommended to local churches, associations, conferences and ministers, to enable them more effectively to accomplish their tasks and the work of the United Church of Christ.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, who have given the name of Christ to our labors, pledge anew our loyalty and devotion to Him whom we acknowledge as our Master; that we strive with all our power to make the United Church His church in deed as well as in name; and be it:

FURTHER RESOLVED that we urge all those churches which as yet have not joined the United Church to become full partners with the churches which have joined in this adventure of great promise, confident that God in His wisdom will use it as His instrument, guiding it in the correction of its mistakes, strengthening it when obedient to His will, shaming it when slothful, humbling it when arrogant, comforting it when it, too, mounts Calvary's hill, and be it:

FURTHER RESOLVED that this General Council urge the United Church to take heed to Paul's admonition "to lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him, endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God."

HERE AND THERE

MINISTERIAL CHANGES AND NEWS

Professor Kenneth Whittemore, teacher of sociology on the faculty of the University of Chattanooga, is serving the Soddy Congregational Church, Tenn., as pastor. Mr. Whittemore formerly served as pastor of the CC Church in Douglas, Mass.

* * * *

Mr. Leslie Brown, a licentiate of the East Alabama Association and a member of the Hillside Church, LaGrange, Ga., has been called to serve State Line Church of the East Association as pastor. Mr. Brown is a ministerial student at Southern Union College.

* * * *

Rev. Wallace Roberts will serve the Forest Home Church, Roanoke, Ala., in addition to Rock Stand and Wadley, Beulah.

* * * *

Rev. Paul Pike of Lanett has been called to serve Antioch Church, Roanoke, Alabama. Mr. Pike has been inactive because of ill health for the past several years.

* * * *

Rev. Roy Walker will serve the Wadley, Corinth Church, as well as Noon Day, Wedowee, Alabama.

* * * *

Dr. Arthur S. Wheelock, pastor emeritus of the Church in the Highlands, White Plains, New York, will serve the First Congregational Church, Knoxville, Tenn., as interim pastor during the leave of absence granted to the minister of the church, Rev. A. Ray Meserve.

Dr. Wheelock has had a long and distinguished career as a minister in our fellowship and has held many positions of national importance.

* * * *

Friends of Rev. Richard J. Barnes will be delighted to learn he has recovered from his heart attack and is taking up many of his former activities.

* * * *

Rev. Charles V. Rary, moderator of the Georgia-South Carolina Conference, was unable to attend the annual meeting of the conference because of a sudden illness. When the Southeast News went to press he was a surgical patient at the Crawford Long Hospital, Atlanta, but was reported in good condition. He was expected to return home shortly.

"Friendly Service" Receives New Name

The officers of the Southeast Convention Women's Fellowship have suggested a program for 1963-64 giving to missions as formerly was done through Friendly Service quotas. The pamphlet, "Material Aid Opportunities", containing detailed information about our gifts, is found in our new program material, "Program Opportunities for Adults". This notebook may be ordered, if you do not already have one, from Central Distribution Service, 1505 Race Street, Philadelphia 2, Pennsylvania.

The four suggested goals are as follows: 1) Foreign Mission need. Letters from our missionaries have indicated certain types of kits are needed in general around the world. In the booklet, "Material Aid Opportunities", our overseas institutions which we help are listed and the kits described in detail, as well as the address to which we may send them. 2) Homeland mission need. Our Homeland Ministries institutions are also listed along with their needs and addresses. We may write directly to the head of the institution to secure a list of their needs and then choose as local churches what we would like to send. 3) Interdenominational need. We may write to the director of the nearest Migrant Ministry office, the Rev. Paul M. Cassen, 836 Biscayne Drive, West Palm Beach, Fla., for information about the current needs among the migrants. 4) Used Postage Stamp Project. This new project will help handicapped refugees get a new start in life. On page 13 of "Material Aid Opportunities" we find directions as to how we are to handle the stamps and where we are to send them.

We will remember the Thrift Shops in our convention and we may find their addresses on pages 14a and 17 of "Material Aid Opportunities." We know that they depend upon our help for their work.

A summary of our contributions will be made as usual on the report forms which we turn in at our Spring Rallies. If your local church needs any further information, please write to the Witness Chairman, Mrs. Edward M. Brown, 499 Emory Circle N. E., Atlanta, Georgia 30307.

"Bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ".

Galatians 6:2

Churches Urged To Receive Christmas Fund Offering For The Veterans Of The Cross

This is the sixty-second year of the Christmas Fund. There is nothing quite like it. This year is its greatest because its appeal goes to all the churches of the United Church of Christ and its services will be extended to the Veterans of the Cross of both communions. This is to be done through the Congregational Board of Ministerial Relief and the Board of Pensions and Relief of the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

The Christmas Fund is the means of caring for retired ministers and their wives and for the widows of these men. Years on small salaries, plus the

inroads of inflation, have made many pensions inadequate. When the times of special need and crisis come, the Christmas Fund goes into action.

Last year 4,707 individual gifts and 1,870 church gifts brought a total of \$175,526.75. Christmas checks plus a second check in March, as well as all the services of the Emergency Fund, have been the result.

You and your church will want to participate this year. Make checks payable to The Christmas Fund and send them to: The Congregational Board of Ministerial Relief, 287 Park Avenue South, New York, N. Y., 10010.

Christmas Fund for the VETERANS of the CROSS



TO MEET THE NEED

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE CHRISTMAS FUND. SEND CONTRIBUTIONS TO:

THE CONGREGATIONAL BOARD OF MINISTERIAL RELIEF
287 PARK AVENUE SOUTH
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10010

THE BOARD OF PENSIONS AND RELIEF
OF THE EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED CHURCH
1505 RACE ST. PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19102

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STAFF

Rev. Jas. H. Lightbourne, Jr. Editor
Mrs. Jettie Logan Promotion

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Superintendent's Corner

The bright sun shone down out of deep blue skies on each one of the six fall association and conference meetings this year. The weather certainly helped attendance. It also relieved the ladies of the host churches who planned to serve the meals on picnic tables in the churchyard.

This is the seventh year that I have made the tour of the fall meetings. Each time that I have done so, certain impressions have come to me.

First, the convention covers a large geographical area. This year the tour covered approximately 2,500 miles.

Second, there is a great variety in the churches of the convention. Some are located in the open country out of sight of any signs of habitation. Others stand on the intersections of busy streets in large cities.

Third, in all of the associations and conferences there are healthy signs of enthusiasm and dedication.

Fourth, we all have problems of one sort or another, but there is a growing willingness to face them.

Fifth, people are much the same wherever you find them — in cities, in the country, in small towns.

For a change, there is no particular point to this column. I share these impressions with you with the additional hope that the fall meetings have encouraged and strengthened you as much as they have me.

Now a change of pace . . . In the paper the other day our family saw this little prayer at the head of an article on Halloween. Because it touched us, we want to share it with you.

"From ghoulies, ghosties, long-leggedy beasties, and things that go bump in the night, Good Lord, deliver us."

— Old Scottish Prayer

Conference And Association Officers And Committee Chairmen

The following officers and committee chairmen were elected or appointed by the associations and conferences at their annual fall meetings.

NORTH ALABAMA ASSOCIATION

Moderator: Rev. Homer Barnes
Vice-Moderator: Rev. Robert L. Shelton
Scribe & Treasurer: Rev. Guy L. Colbert

Representative to Southeast Convention Board: Mr. John Heaman
Committee Chairmen

Survey & Church Aid: Rev. Guy L. Colbert

Christian Education: Mrs. Leila Terry

Ministry & Churches: Rev. W. Raymond Berry

Stewardship & Missionary Education: Rev. Robert L. Shelton

Pastor-at-Large: Rev. Guy L. Colbert

CENTRAL ALABAMA ASSOCIATION

Moderator: Rev. Andrew Nelson
Vice-Moderator: Fred D. Powell
Secretary & Treasurer: Miss Willa Durden

Southeast Convention Board: Mrs. Challis Rhodes

Committee Chairmen

Survey & Church Aid: Rev. John Wilder

Christian Education: Millard Fuller

Evangelism, Stewardship & Missionary Education: Rev. William Fulmer

Church and Ministry: Mrs. Jettie Logan

SOUTH ALABAMA- NORTHWEST FLORIDA

Moderator: Rev. E. H. Henby
Vice-Moderator: Rev. Earle H. Temple Jr.

Scribe-Treasurer: Mrs. Bernice Carter

Southeast Convention Board: Rev. N. A. Long

Committee Chairmen

Christian Education: Mrs. Ruby McCullum

Stewardship & Missionary Education: Miss Dora C. Brackin

Evangelism & Worship: Rev. Joseph H. Brown

Ministry & Churches: Rev. Ira J. Robinson

Survey & Church Aid: Rev. Earle H. Temple Jr.

EAST ALABAMA ASSOCIATION

Moderator: Rev. George W. Stowe

Vice-Moderator: Rev. Charles Bell

Secretary: H. Paul Beard

Treasurer: Ross McCormack

Southeast Convention Board: H. Paul Beard

Committee Chairmen

Ministry & Churches: Rev. Olin E. Sheppard

Missions & Stewardship: Rev. W. W. Hall

Religious Education & Youth Work:

Rev. Warren A. Blankenhorn

Evangelism, Worship & Fellowship:

Rev. Roy Chatham

Music Director: E. C. Stevens

Pianist: Mrs. Walter A. Graham

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE CONFERENCE

Moderator: G. E. Farmer

Vice-Moderator: Rev. Clyde C. Flannery

Secretary: Rufus G. Obrecht

Treasurer: Emerson P. Poste

Southeast Convention Board: Rev. William R. Winterbottom

Committee Chairmen

Ministry & Churches: Dr. Kendrick Grobel

Survey & Church Aid: Rev. Arnold Slater

Evangelism: Rev. Carolyn P. Welch

Stewardship & Missionary Education: Rev. A. Ray Meserve

Christian Education & Youth Work:

Rev. Annie R. Campbell

Christian Social Action: Mrs. Fred R. Muhleman

GEORGIA-SOUTH CAROLINA

Moderator: Rev. Frederick A. Meyer

Vice-Moderator: Rev. J. Kermit Harris

Scribe: Mrs. Emmett Bailey

Treasurer: Rev. Robert W. Hendrix

Southeast Convention Board: Mr. Warren Smith

Committee Chairmen

Ministry & Churches: Rev. William M. McCullars

Evangelism, Stewardship & Missionary Education: Rev. L. Floyd Carmack

Survey & Church Aid: Rev. Hugh Lasseter

Christian Education & Youth Work: Mrs. Edward L. Askren Jr.

People...

Churches...

Events...

Todd Church Reports Progress And Growth

Todd Church, Shawmut, Ala., has had one of the best years in its history. We have made much progress during this year. The large building debt we owed only four years ago is almost paid off. On October 1 we owed a balance of only \$250.00, and we hope to clear that up by the end of the year. The Churchmen's Fellowship and the Women's Fellowship are planning together to sponsor a chicken plate sale in the near future in order to raise money to pay off the balance of the building debt. We will then have only the parsonage debt, which is being paid off regularly as the notes come due.

The Women's Fellowship plans to put screen doors and windows in the Fellowship Hall and kitchen and the Churchmen's Fellowship has just purchased wooden pew receptacles for the communion glasses to be placed on the backs of the pews. The church gave a grocery shower to a needy family.

We have received 16 new members into the church this year, 10 by letter and 5 on confession of faith. Some of the new members have become very active in the church.

Deacons: Mr. Elton Rice, Mr. George Carlisle, Mr. Arnold Wallace.

Trustees: Mr. Paul Frost and Mr. Freddie Slater.

Sunday School Superintendent: Mr. Burson Moore.

Choir Director: Mrs. Eva Cantrell.
Junior Choir Sponsors: Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Smith.

The following were re-elected for one year: Treasurer, Mr. Arnold Wallace; Clerk, Mrs. Virginia Wallace; Financial Secretary, Mrs. Eva Cantrell; Musician, Miss Jeannie Frost.

Our junior choir was recently organized. They will furnish the music for the evening service.

Attendance at all our services has increased during the year and we hope to make next year the best yet.

Our pastor, the Rev. A. C. Nelson, began his first pastorate on October 1, 1926. He has had 37 years of regular pastoral service. During this time he has officiated at the marriage of 124 couples. The Rev. Mr. Nelson has been pastor of Todd Church for four years. One year ago, in October of 1963, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. Mr. Nelson is 70 years young.

Rev. Emory M. Carter, Veteran Pastor, Retires

Rev. Emory M. Carter, faithful pastor at the Youngsville Christian Church in North Carolina for thirty-seven years, resigned last June. The resignation was to become effective when his successor was secured.

On October 19 the new minister of the church, Mr. H. Milton Wilder Jr. of Sanford, N. C., began his duties. Mr. Wilder is a graduate of the University of North Carolina and is taking his second year at Duke Divinity School.

Dr. W. T. Scott, former superintendent of the Southern Convention, has written concerning Rev. Emory M. Carter:

"Mr. Carter is the 'dean' of ministers of the Southern Convention, having been licensed on October 22, 1898, and ordained October 23, 1900, by the Georgia and Alabama Christian Conference. He began preaching at the age of 18, and he has been in the active ministry for more than sixty-five years.

"A native of Alabama, he served churches there and at different times was secretary of both the Georgia and Alabama Christian Conference and the Alabama Christian Conference.

Seeing the need of education in preparation for the ministry, Brother Carter entered Elon College as a student on November 14, 1900, where he studied about three years. At the end of this time he returned to Alabama for work among the churches.

"On April 23, 1908, he married Miss Lovie Floyd of the Oak Grove Christian Church community, near what was then called "Chipley", Georgia, the home church of Elon College's former president, Dr. Leon Edgar Smith.

"Brother Carter returned to Elon in 1924. He completed his work, graduating with the class of 1925. He has been one of our more faithful ministers.

"He served as secretary of the Eastern North Carolina Conference for 20 years, the Youngsville church as pastor for 37 years, and Good Hope church for 35 years. He is now 'semi-retired', though his counsels are sought most frequently. His love for Elon College and all of the institutions of our church exemplify ideals we all might follow."

HERE AND THERE

USED CHOIR ROBES

Central Congregational Church, Atlanta, has 18 used choir robes it will be happy to give to a church that would like to have them. If your church is interested it should write: Rev. Frederick A. Meyer, Central Congregational Church, 675 Piedmont Ave., N. E., Atlanta 8, Georgia.

* * * *

NEW ORGAN DEDICATED

Central Congregational Church dedicated its new Allen electronic organ at a special service held on Sunday night, October 20.

As a part of the service an organ recital was presented by Mr. Richard T. Apperson, a graduate organ student of Elon College.

President Earl Danieleley and Dean Fletcher Moore of the college were present for the occasion.

* * * *

GARDEN CITY PF

The newly elected officers of the Pilgrim Fellowship of the Congregational Christian Church, Garden City, Ala., are:

President: Dennie Johnson

Vice-President: Cynthia Johnson

Secretary: Charlotte Armstrong

* * * *

UNITED CHURCH

MINISTERS' CONVOCATION

The annual United Church Ministers' Convocation will be held Monday-Wednesday, December 2-4, at the Interdenominational Theological Center, Beckwith Street, Atlanta, Georgia. The cost will be \$12.50.

Registrations should be sent to Rev. Edward M. Brown, 499 Emory Circle, N. E., Atlanta 7, Ga.

All of the United Church ministers in the Southeast area are invited and urged to attend.

* * * *

REV. LOWELL A. SMOOT

According to reports received in the convention office Mr. Smoot recently underwent surgery for a back difficulty at Duke University Hospital. He should be home by now — 326 McIver St., Sanford, North Carolina.

* * * *

Arnold Mark Slater Jr. was born recently to Mr. and Mrs. Mark Slater, Chattanooga. Arnold Mark Jr. is the grandson of Rev. and Mrs. Arnold Slater.

Share Our Substance Emphasis This Month

Once yearly, America stops to give thanks for the gifts that God has generously showered upon the fields and peoples of this great nation. Thousands of churches and communities hold special Thanksgiving services to stress the importance of the SHARE OUR SUBSTANCE program. Generally, these observances are held on Thanksgiving Day, or a Sunday near the holiday.

This year, the nation-wide program will be launched on November 24, 1963, during a great inter-denominational gathering at the National Cathedral in Washington, D. C. Thanks will be given not only for the plenty with which America is blessed, but for the opportunity God has offered us to share with the needy overseas.

The name has changed from "Share Our Surplus" to "Share Our Substance", but the needs and the opportunities are still the same. SOS—code signal in time of distress—identifies Share Our Substance, part of our churches' answer to the needs of the hungry and the disaster stricken overseas.

The cooperative effort of major Protestant and Eastern Orthodox bodies in the U. S., the program is designed to provide help for as many of the world's hungry, undernourished or disaster-stricken as can be reached.

SOS foods are made available through the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Other foods required by overseas feeding programs are provided through CROP, or purchased. All foods are distributed on the basis of need, without reference to race or creed.

In 1962, at a total cost of only \$806,166.38, the Share Our Substance Program distributed a total of 496,033,461 pounds of government donated and other foods to more than a million of the world's hungry men, women, and children. The amount sent per dollar is so great that one has to believe in miracles to understand it.

The churches of the Southeast Convention are urged to participate in this program on Sunday, November 24, or on another convenient Sunday. The contributions should be sent to the convention office. Let us support this program generously. Let us . . .

"SHARE OUR SUBSTANCE"

United Church Boards Fill Two Staff Posts

Two appointments of interest have been made recently within the staffs of the United Church.

The Rev. Richard L. Snyder assumed his new post September 15 as secretary for adult education and chairman of the adult ministry staff of the Division of Christian Education, United Church Board for Homeland Ministries.

The Rev. John R. Washington began his duties September 1 as the new Associate Secretary for Racial and Cultural Affairs of the United Church Council for Christian Social Action.

In his new office, Mr. Snyder succeeded the Rev. William E. Wimer, who is now director of the Office for Audio-Visuals of the Stewardship Council. A native of Philadelphia, Mr. Snyder graduated from Oberlin College in 1940; received a Master's Degree in religious education from Columbia University in 1941 and his B. D. degree from Union Theological Seminary in 1943. He was ordained in 1943.

He served Congregational Churches in Maine and New Jersey and a Navy chaplaincy (1944-46). He was minister of education of the First Congregational Church in Madison, Wis., from 1951 to 1955, with a leave of absence in 1952-53 for a second tour of duty as a Navy Chaplain. Since then he has served as minister of education in Belmont, Mass., and at the Saugatuck Congregational Church, Westport, Conn.

Mr. and Mrs. Snyder have three children: Robert, 18, Margaret, 16, and David, 14.

Rev. John R. Washington is a graduate of Andover Newton Theological Seminary and received his M. S. T. degree in counselling in 1958 from that institution. Prior to entering seminary he was an officer in the U. S. Air Force.

For five years he was pastor of the Sheldon Street Congregational Church, Providence, R. I. In 1960 he became pastor of Pilgrim Congregational Church, San Francisco.

Mr. and Mrs. Washington were married in 1954. She holds an M. R. E. degree from Andover Newton. They have three sons: James, 8, Gary, 6, and Stuart, 3.



Rev. W. Walter Hall Begins Lanett Ministry

Pictured above are Rev. and Mrs. W. Walter Hall and their four children. Mr. Hall began his ministry at the Lanett Congregational Christian Church on October 1.

Mr. Hall is a native of High Point, N. C., and his wife, Peggy (formerly Margaret E. Bussler), hails from Williamsport, Pa. Their oldest son, Walter Grant, has studied at Elon College two years and is now in the United States Navy stationed in Hawaii. Daughter Margaret is a sophomore at Elon College, and Vaughan Dabney is in the second grade. John, sitting on his father's lap, is three years old.

While a student at Elon College Mr. Hall served Hines Chapel, Belew Creek, and Shallow Ford in North Carolina. After graduation he served Albemarle until 1951 when he left for Andover Newton Theological Seminary. In 1954 he returned to Danville, Va., for a term of four years. The next two years were spent at Virgilina, Va., after which he went to Asheboro, N. C., from where he was called to Lanett.

A Service of Installation for the new minister will be held at the Lanett Church on Sunday afternoon, November 17, at 3 p. m. The Halls are welcome additions to the convention family.